

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Jarkko VALTANEN

Serial No. To be assigned
U.S. National Appl. of PCT/FI98/00307

Filed: September 30, 1999

For: JOINT ARRANGEMENT

Atty Docket: 1625/00023

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The documents identified on the attached Form PTO-1449 has come to the attention of the undersigned in connection with the above patent application. Copies of these documents are also attached unless otherwise indicated below and it is respectfully requested that they be made of record in this proceeding. The identification of these documents is for the purpose of meeting applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and is not intended to be an admission that these documents constitute prior art as to the invention claimed in the present application.

The documents identified are believed to be relevant as having been cited in an International Search Report for a corresponding International application. The relevance of all the listed documents is indicated in the International Search Report as category "A",

background art. German references DT 2717625, DE 4414341 and DE 2558967 are also discussed in the present specification.

It is believed that the documents identified do not disclose or make obvious a joint arrangement as claimed in the present application. Although the information disclosed above is that which the reviewing attorney or agent believes may be relevant based on a brief review of the application, the search report and the attached documents, the documents identified may contain relevant information other than that which has come to the attention of the reviewing attorney or agent. Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to review and form his or her own conclusions with regard to the relevance of the documents identified.

These documents are being submitted (check only one of the next four boxes):

- ☒ within three months of the filing of the above U.S. national application or of the date of entry of the U.S. national stage in an International Patent Application (no fee is due);
- ☐ before receiving a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified patent application (no fee is due);
- ☐ following receipt of a first Office Action, but before issuance of a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance (if this box is checked, one of the last three boxes also must be checked);

OR

- ☐ following receipt of a Notice of Allowance or a Final Office Action (if this box is checked, the next box and one of the last three boxes also must be checked).
- ☐ PETITION - The undersigned hereby requests consideration of this information after mailing the Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance by filing this Petition under 37 CFR § 1.97(d)(2)(ii) and attaching Check No. ____ in the amount of \$130.00 as the petition fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(i)(1).

- ☐ Check No. ____ in the amount of \$240.00 is attached in payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p).
- ☐ The undersigned certifies that each item of this information is being submitted within three months of the date it was cited by a foreign patent office in a counterpart application.
- ☐ The undersigned certifies that, after making reasonable inquiry, he/she has no knowledge that any item of this information was cited by a foreign patent office in a counterpart application or was known more than three months prior to this submission.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any deficiency in the above fee(s) or to charge any additional fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 or 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 22-0185. A duplicate copy of this authorization is attached for the Finance Branch.

Respectfully submitted,

Elzbieta Chlopecka

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